

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 USIE-00 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01

EURE-00 SSO-00 /022 W

-----171800Z 117642 /41

O 171635Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5376

DOS RECEPTION CENTER NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ROME 10067

FOR EUR/WE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT,US,OVIP (DEP.MARIO GARGANO, DEP. CONCETTO LOBELLO  
SEN. EUGENIO TARABINI)

SUBJ: US VISIT OF THREE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARLIAMENTARIANS  
OF "FRIENDS OF AMERICAN CLUB "

1. THREE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT (DC) PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE DECIDED  
ON SHORT NOTICE TO VISIT NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, JUNE 19-26,  
IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY TO MAKE DIRECT CONTACTS WITH PROMINENT  
ITALO-AMERICAN GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE NEWLY  
ESTABLISHED "FRIENDS OF AMERICA CLUB." THE INITIATIVE WAS  
ORGANIZED BY DEPUTY MARIO GARGANO (THE PRESIDENT OF THE CLUB)  
WHO POLLED HIS DC COLLEAGUES IN THE CHAMBER AND SENATE AS TO THEIR  
INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN A US-ITALIAN FRIENDSHIP ORGANIZATION.  
OVER 150 DC PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE CURRENTLY MEMBERS OF THE CLUB.

2. GARGANO AND HIS ASSOCIATES HAVE KEPT US INFORMED OF THEIR  
ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE STILL VERY MUCH IN THE ORGANIZATIONAL  
STAGE. FOR THE MOMENT, PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN LIMITED TO THE DC,  
BUT GARGANO HAS INDICATED THAT ONCE BETTER ESTABLISHED IT WILL  
OPEN TO OTHER DEMOCRATIC ELEMENTS AS WELL. WE HAVE BEEN SYMPA-  
THETIC (GARGANO CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR RECENTLY), BUT HAVE  
ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT THE INITIATIVE SHOULD BE ITALIAN -DIRECTED  
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AND ORGANIZED.

3. IN RESPONSE TO NUMEROUS REQUESTS FROM ITS PARLIAMENTARY  
MEMBERSHIP, THE FRIENDS OF AMERICA CLUB IS ORGANIZING A CHARTER  
FLIGHT TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON FOR DC MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT  
AND THEIR FAMILIES, TENTATIVELY SET FOR JULY 24-31. THEY HAVE  
APPROACHED THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY (UNDERSECRETARY RADI)

AND THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON DIRECTLY FOR ASSISTANCE  
IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS. THEY ARE ALSO WORKING THROUGH A NUMBER  
OF US CONTACTS WHO ARE ARRANGING THE JUNE 19-26 GARGANO VISIT.  
IN NEW YORK, THESE ARE:

PROF. SALVATORE TOCCI OF "ITALIAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE IN THE US INC,  
27 BARROZ STREET (TEL. CH-2-4140);

MR. CASTELLI, EDITOR OF THE PROGRESSO ITALO-AMERICANO; AND  
JUDGE EDWARD RE. TOWARD END OF WEEK, GROUP WILL TRAVEL TO WASH-  
INGTON TO MEET WITH SENATOR RICHARD BIRD (W.VA), AN APPOINTMENT  
ARRANGED THROUGH W.VA. STATE LEGISLATOR JOHN CAMILLI. DUE TO  
SHORTNESS OF TIME, WE HAVE NOT SUGGESTED ANY SPECIFIC CALLS,  
BUT HAVE GIVEN GARGANO OFFICE PHONE NUMBER OF ITALIAN DESK  
OFFICER MCKINLEY IN CASE OF NEED.

EUR/WE MAY NONETHELESS WISH TO ALERT SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE  
ITALIAN-AMERICAN CAUCUS SUCH AS CONGRESSMAN RODINO TO THE GROUP'S  
PLANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON. AMBASSADOR ALSO SUGGESTED GARGANO  
MAY WISH TO GET IN TOUCH WITH DR. JENO PAOLUCCI WHOSE FOUNDATION  
MIGHT HAVE AN INTEREST IN SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES SUCH AS "  
FRIENDS OF AMERICA".

4. GARGANO WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY CONCETTO LO BELLO  
(DC-SIRACUSA) AND SENATOR EUGENIO TARABINI (DC-SONDRIO),  
CLUB VICE PRESIDENT DR. MARIO SCHETTINI (ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE);  
AND CLUB SECRETARY ANTONIO GIUSTI. IN NEW YORK, THEY WILL STAY  
AT HOTEL AMERICANA.

5. FOR NEW YORK RECEPTION CENTER: GARGANO PARTY ARRIVES JFK  
SUNDAY JUNE 19 AT 1515 VIA AIR FRANCE 017 FROM PARIS. EMBASSY  
WOULD APPRECIATE IF CENTER COULD ARRANGE APPROPRIATE ENTRY  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, OVIP, IT, US, (GARGANO, MARIO), (LOBELLO, CONCETTO), (TARABINI, EUGENIO)  
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